

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 056374
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 056374

FOLLOWING REPEAT BUENOS AIRES 1609 SENT ACTION SECSTATE
INFO BOGOTA PARIS MAR 03.

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 1609

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, AR

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF ALCIRA RODRIGUEZ DE CAMUSSO

REF: (A) STATE 41433 (B) 77 STATE 288838

1. UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)
LOCAL OFFICE IS SEIZED WITH SUBJECT CASE. THEIR
ATTORNEY DESCRIBES THE CAMUSSO CASE AS THE MOST
COMPLICATED MATTER HE HAS FACED IN ARGENTINA. IN
THE LAST FEW DAYS UNHCR HAS MADE LEGAL DETERMINATION
THAT MRS. RODRIGUEZ DE CAMUSSO IS A STATELESS PERSON.
SHE WAS BORN IN FRANCE OF ARGENTINE PARENTS, BUT
EVIDENTLY NECESSARY REGISTRATION TO ESTABLISH HER
ARGENTINE CITIZENSHIP WAS NEVER COMPLETED.

2. AFTER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN UNHCR AND GOA, UN
ATTORNEYS HAVE ACCEPTED ARGENTINE POSITION THAT
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SUBJECT IS NOT ENTITLED TO ARGENTINE PASSPORT.
UNHCR IS SEEKING AN ARGENTINE JUDICIAL DOCUMENT CEERTIFYING
SUBJECT'S STATELESSNESS WHICH CAN BE USED FOR FACILITATING
HER RELEASE AND ONWARD TRAVEL. UNHCR IS HANDLING THE CASE
ON THE BASIS OF HUMANITARIAN EFFORT TO REUNITE MRS. CAMUSSO
WITH HER PARENTS WHO ARE RESIDING IN COLUMBIA WITH REFUGEE
STATUS.

3. THERE IS NO HARD INFORMATION REGARDING CURRENT STATUS OF CAMUSSO'S CHILDREN. UNHCR CASE WORKER BELIVES THAT OLDEST CAMUSSO CHILD IS LIVING WITH PARENTS OF CHILD'S (PROBABLY EXECUTED) FATHER. IT IS BELIEVED THAT YOUNGEST CAMUSSO CHILD WHO WAS BORN IN VILLA DEVOTO PRISON IN LATE 1977 REMAINS UNDER MOTHER'S CARE IN PRISON. (EMBASSY NOTE: ARGENTINE PRISON REGULATIONS ALLOW MOTHER TO CARE FOR INFANT UP TO THE AGE OF 6 MONTHS.)

4. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR CAMUSSO CASE. UNCHR HAS BEEN RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS CASE DUE TO LEGAL DIFFICULTIES AND SENSITIVITY OF ITS ONGOING DISCUSSIONS WITH GOA.
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